

Image

RCE/2851

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/817,018
Filing Date	March 27, 2001
First Named Inventor	Ryuichi EBINUMA et al.
Group Art Unit	2851
Examiner Name	H. Nguyen
Attorney Docket Number	03560.002758

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other: _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ Other Letter Transmitting Corrected Formal Drawings and Figures 3, 5, 7-9 and 11

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other:

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) 02/19/2004 MAHHE01 00000029 09817018
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1801 770.00 DP
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ A check in the amounts of \$942.00 is enclosed to cover the RCE filing fee (\$770.00) and the additional claims fee (\$172.00).
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Steven E. Warner	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	33,326
Signature		Date	February 17, 2004 (Tuesday After Federal Holiday)

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



03560.002758

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
RYUICHI EBINUMA, ET AL.) : Examiner: H. Nguyen
Application No.: 09/817,018) : Group Art Unit: 2851
Filed: March 27, 2001) : Confirmation No.: 7324
For: SUPPORTING STRUCTURE OF OPTICAL) : Allowed: November 14, 2003
ELEMENT, EXPOSURE APPARATUS) : February 17, 2004
HAVING THE SAME, AND MANUFACTURING) (Tuesday after Federal Holiday
METHOD OF SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE :

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application.

☒ No additional fee is required.


The fee has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	51	MINUS	51	= 0	x \$9 \$18	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	9	MINUS	7	= 2	x \$43 \$86	\$172.00
Fee for Multiple Dependent claims \$145/\$290						—
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						\$172.00

☐ °Verified Statement claiming small entity status is enclosed, if not filed previously.

- ☒ A check in the amount of \$942.00 is enclosed including the RCE filing fee (\$770.00) and the additional claims fee (\$172.00).
- ☐ Charge \$____ to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ Any prior general authorization to charge an issue fee under 37 CFR 1.18 to Deposit Account No. 06-1205 is hereby revoked. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required during the entire pendency of this application, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the fee for a two month extension is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the Information Disclosure Statement fee is enclosed.
- ☒ Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Steven E. Warner
Registration No. 33,326

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SEW/eab

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to further examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application
as follows:

02/19/2004 MAHMED1 00000029 09817018

02 FC:1201

172.00 OP